

## DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

James - Week 11: Choose Whom You'll Serve August 17 - 20, 2023

LEADER NOTES: Fall trimester: 8/28-12/10 New Leader Trainings: 12/10 in person and 12/18 on Zoom.

**Leader Podcast Now on Spotify:** You can listen to every episode of <u>Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less on Spotify</u>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – What's your next step? Stay informed and connected to ALL the things God is doing in and through The Church of Eleven22 at <u>coe22.com/news</u>.

**Prayer and Fasting August 15 - September 6:** In preparation for Saturated, prayer and fasting helps us let go of the things of the world and grab hold of the things of Jesus. If you're medically able, join us in fasting weekly for 24 hours from sun-down on Tuesdays until sun-down on Wednesdays. Every Wednesday leading up to Saturated, our campuses will be open from 7-8am and 12-1pm to create space for you to draw near to the Lord.

**Disciple Groups Signup Weekends-August-17-27-All Campuses-All Worship Services:** Fall groups begin August 28. Signups are an opportunity to help others find a group. You and your group are encouraged to serve before and after worship services.

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN: coe22.com/readingplan

Share Wins, Praises and Prayers: Where did you see God move this week?

**The Point:** Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Draw near to this world and it will betray you.

**SERMON TEXT:** James 4:4-10; Romans 12:2; John 3:16; 1 John 2:15-17; Exodus 34:14; Proverbs 3:34; Psalm 24

## **Discussion Questions**

**LEADERS:** There is no pressure to get through all the questions; we suggest prayerfully planning your choices for your group. Your leadership of sharing and questioning will determine how deep your group goes with each question.

- What stood out to you in the sermon this week?
- Read James 4:4-10. What did God reveal to you in the scriptures this week, maybe for the first time?
- James 4:4 says, "...Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." Do you live your life as a friend of the world or of God?

  Discover: If you were to playback the movie of your life over this past week, does the audio (the things you say/claim) match the video, or are they out of sync?

  Deepen: Consider the areas of your life related to money, sex, pride, and power. Where in your life have you developed a habit or lifestyle that looks more like the world than Jesus? (James is writing to Jewish believers not unbelievers and calling those who live as friends of the world, "enemies of God." We are called to love the people of the world as God loves us and to reject the values and systems of this world. Unfortunately, we often do the opposite.)
- James 4:5 is referencing Exodus 34:14 when it says, "Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, 'He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us'?"

  What does it mean that God is a jealous God? (God is jealous for you, not of you. A nursing mother is jealous for her baby because she knows she is the only one who has what her baby needs. God is like that for you.)
- James 4:6 says, "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."
   Discover: Share a time where you were able to "play second fiddle enthusiastically" and help create harmony (be humble). How did it impact your faith and your life?
   Deepen: What promise does James 4:6 give to those who humble themselves? (He gives grace to the humble. Humility isn't thinking less of yourself, its thinking of yourself less. It's seeing yourself in light of Christ. You're simultaneously a sinner in need of a savior and more than a conqueror not by your own power or because you deserve it, but because of Jesus Christ.)
- Discover: What 7 tips does James 4:7-10 give on how to kill sin in your life? (Submit yourself to God, resist the devil, draw near to God, cleanse your hands, purify your hearts, mourn & weep, humble yourselves before the Lord.)
  - **Deepen:** Which of the tips do you practice most, and which can you cultivate during the prayer and fasting season leading up to Saturated to deepen your relationship with Jesus?

## **ACTION STEP**

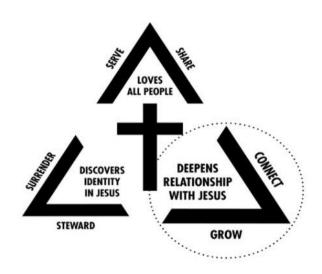
A Disciple...Loves All People, Discovers Identity in Jesus, Deepens Relationship with Jesus.

Join the Eleven22 family in preparing for Saturated through prayer and fasting. Find fasting resources and learn more at <a href="mailto:coe22.com/saturated">coe22.com/saturated</a>.

• **RightNow Media:** Find an unending supply of resources by signing up for a FREE RightNow Media account. Go to <a href="mailto:coe22.com/rightnowmedia">coe22.com/rightnowmedia</a> or text "RightNow" to 441122.

(Note: You'll need to login or create an account to view RightNow Media content.)

Details on the 10:10 Life are available at <u>coe22.com/1010life</u>.



Go to <u>coe22.com/resources</u> and click "Download Tool" to download or print a discipleship journey tool with questions for you to ask yourself and others. Please share the link and directions with others in your group.